

Darlington

ABSOLUTE RATING: Average
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Average

Absolute Ratings of Similar Districts

| Unsatisfactory | Below Average | Average | Good | Excellent |
|----------------|---------------|---------|------|-----------|
| 0 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 0 |

Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

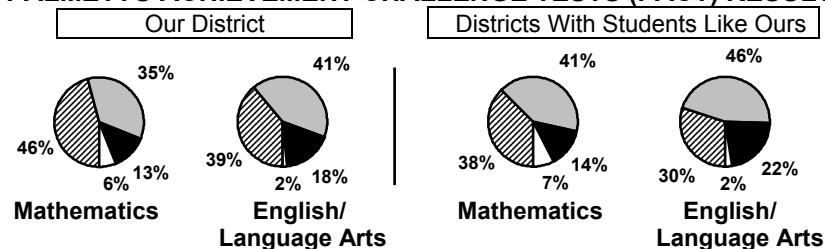
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



☐ **Advanced**
☐ **Proficient**
☐ **Basic**
☒ **Below Basic**

DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

| Student Group | Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2002 | | Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships* | | Students Scoring Basic or Above on The PACT | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|-------|---|-------|--------|
| | N | % | N | % | N | % ELA | % Math |
| All students | 559 | 96.2% | 502 | 13.1% | 5,309 | 61.1% | 54.0% |
| Students with disabilities other than speech | 30 | 90.0% | 36 | 0.0% | 821 | 30.2% | 22.5% |
| Students without disabilities | 529 | 95.8% | 466 | 14.2% | 4,450 | 67.3% | 60.3% |
| Gender | | | | | | | |
| Male | 252 | 94.8% | 216 | 10.2% | 2,717 | 54.5% | 51.2% |
| Female | 306 | 96.1% | 286 | 16.1% | 2,592 | 67.9% | 56.9% |
| Ethnic Group | | | | | | | |
| African American | 281 | 95.4% | 256 | 4.7% | 3,055 | 50.1% | 41.8% |
| Hispanic | N/A | N/A | 0 | N/A | 22 | 72.7% | 81.8% |
| White | 276 | 95.7% | 244 | 22.5% | 2,214 | 75.9% | 70.3% |
| Other | 1 | I/S | 2 | I/S | 18 | 88.9% | 83.3% |
| Lunch Status | | | | | | | |
| Free/reduced-price lunch | 227 | 94.7% | 148 | 6.1% | 3,553 | 52.9% | 44.8% |
| Pay for lunch | 330 | 96.1% | 354 | 16.1% | 1,679 | 80.1% | 75.1% |

N equals number of students on which percentages are calculated.

*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

Darlington

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

| | First-time Examinees | | |
|--|----------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
| Our district | | | |
| Passed all 3 subtests | 58.6% | 66.4% | 60.0% |
| Passed 2 subtests | 19.2% | 17.8% | 19.4% |
| Passed 1 subtest | 14.7% | 10.2% | 13.6% |
| Passed no subtest | 7.5% | 5.6% | 7.1% |
| Districts with students like ours | | | |
| Passed all 3 subtests | 62.5% | 65.1% | 65.4% |
| Passed 2 subtests | 19.7% | 18.0% | 18.1% |
| Passed 1 subtest | 11.3% | 10.4% | 10.8% |
| Passed no subtest | 6.5% | 6.5% | 5.8% |

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions*

| | Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement | Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Our District | 13.1 | 59.4 |
| Districts Like Ours | 16.9 | 46.3 |
| | | 13.7 |
| | | 17.4 |

*Using the criteria for students who entered college in fall 2001.

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

| | SAT Verbal | | SAT Math | | SAT Total | | ACT English | | ACT Math | | ACT Reading | | ACT Science | | ACT Total | |
|----------|------------|------|----------|------|-----------|------|-------------|------|----------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-----------|------|
| | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 | 2001 | 2002 |
| District | 450 | 443 | 457 | 452 | 907 | 895 | 17.7 | 17.5 | 18.7 | 18.0 | 18.8 | 18.1 | 18.7 | 18.1 | 18.6 | 18.1 |
| State | 486 | 488 | 488 | 493 | 974 | 981 | 18.8 | 18.8 | 19.3 | 19.1 | 19.5 | 19.3 | 19.2 | 19.2 | 19.3 | 19.2 |
| Nation | 506 | 504 | 514 | 516 | 1020 | 1020 | 20.5 | 20.2 | 20.7 | 20.6 | 21.3 | 21.1 | 21.0 | 20.8 | 21.0 | 20.8 |

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

| | Reading | | Language | | Math | | Total | |
|----------|---------|--------|----------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation |
| Grade 4 | 47.8 | 50.0 | 43.1 | 50.0 | 58.4 | 50.0 | 50.5 | 50.0 |
| Grade 7 | 45.8 | 50.0 | 59.4 | 50.0 | 54.7 | 50.0 | 53.9 | 50.0 |
| Grade 10 | 59.6 | 50.0 | 59.5 | 50.0 | 62.4 | 50.0 | 59.1 | 50.0 |

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

| Test | Grade | Year | Advanced | | Proficient | | Basic | | Below Basic | |
|-------------|-------|------|----------|--------|------------|--------|-------|--------|-------------|--------|
| | | | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation | State | Nation |
| Reading | 4 | 1998 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 23 | 33 | 32 | 45 | 39 |
| Writing | 8 | 1998 | 0 | 1 | 15 | 23 | 64 | 59 | 21 | 17 |
| Mathematics | 4 | 2000 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 23 | 42 | 43 | 40 | 31 |

ABBREVIATIONS FOR MISSING DATA

N/A – Not Applicable

N/C – Not Collected

N/R – Not Reported

I/S – Insufficient Sample

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

| | This District | Change from Last Year | Districts With Students Like Ours | Median District |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| DISTRICT | | | | |
| • Dollars per student | \$7,106 | Up 8.4% | \$7,153 | \$7,072 |
| • Prime instructional time | 88.8% | Up from 88.6% | 89.4% | 89.9% |
| • Student-teacher ratio | 18.6 to 1 | Down from 21.1 to 1 | 18.4 to 1 | 18.6 to 1 |
| • Vacancies for more than nine weeks | 1.3% | Up from 0.9% | 0.8% | 0.4% |
| STUDENTS (n=11,361) | | | | |
| • Advanced placement/ Int'l baccalaureate program: | | | | |
| Participation Rate | 8.1% | N/A | 8.5% | 9.3% |
| Exam Success Rate | 62.4% | N/A | 59.0% | 52.7% |
| • Attendance Rate | 96.0% | Up from 95.0% | 95.7% | 96.0% |
| • Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level | 6.9% | Up from 6.2% | 7.8% | 7.1% |
| • Taking PACT (Math) off grade level | 6.6% | Up from 5.9% | 6.5% | 5.6% |
| • Retention rate | 6.0% | Down from 7.6% | 6.3% | 5.6% |
| TEACHERS (n=841) | | | | |
| • Professional development days per teacher | 5.0 Days | Down from 8.6Days | 5.0 Days | 5.0 Days |
| • Attendance rate | 94.6% | Down from 95.1% | 95.2% | 95.0% |
| • Advanced Degrees | 43.4% | Up from 43.0% | 43.8% | 46.6% |
| • Continuing contracts | 80.3% | Up from 80.1% | 85.1% | 83.1% |
| • Out-of-field permits | 3.6% | Up from 3.2% | 2.9% | 2.0% |
| • Teachers returning from the previous year | 89.7% | Down from 90.6% | 88.7% | 88.6% |
| • Average salary | \$39,017 | Up 6.4% | \$38,983 | \$39,023 |

DISTRICT FACTS

| | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| DISTRICT | | | | |
| • Annual dropout rate | 2.9% | Down from 3.3% | 3.4% | 3.1% |
| • Percentage spent on teacher salaries | 53.3% | No change | 53.3% | 53.7% |
| • Superintendent's years in the district | 3.0 | Up from 2.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 |
| • Parent conferences | 99.0% | Up from 95.4% | 91.2% | 93.9% |
| • Opportunities in the arts | Excellent | Up from Good | Excellent | Excellent |
| • Number of schools | 21 | No change | 7 | 8 |
| • Number of alternative schools | 0 | No change | 0 | 0 |
| • Number of charter schools | 0 | No change | 0 | 0 |
| • Number of magnet schools | 3 | Up from 1 | 0 | 0 |
| • Portable classrooms | 7.6% | No change | 7.6% | 6.6% |
| • Attendance rate of district office staff | 95.2% | Down from 97.1% | 95.7% | 96.8% |
| • Average administrative salary | \$67,410 | Up 7.5% | \$67,410 | \$66,570 |
| STUDENTS | | | | |
| • Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs | 302 | N/A | 75 | 129 |
| • Number of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs | 92 | N/A | 22 | 37 |
| • Suspensions and expulsions | 1.8% | N/A | 1.8% | 1.5% |
| • Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs | 10.6% | Down from 10.8% | 9.3% | 10.6% |
| • Percentage with disabilities other than speech | 14.6% | No change | 10.8% | 10.7% |

Darlington School District
P. O. Box 1117
Darlington, SC 29540



Grades K-12

Enrollment: 11,361 Students

Superintendent Dr. Rainey Knight 843-398-5200

Board Chair Dr. Allen McCutchen 843-332-2852

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

**Annual District
Report Card**

2002

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Darlington County School District serves approximately 11,400 students. The range of services extends from 3-K special needs students to adults. There are three traditional high schools, one high school for math, science, and technology, and an alternative school. The district has three junior high schools, an early childhood center and thirteen elementary schools including a magnet school for the arts and another for science and technology.

Teacher quality is the key to continued success for our students. A comprehensive program of staff development is ongoing and expected for all school personnel and administrators.

Afternoon and summer programs are offered for students who need academic assistance. Standard-based lessons are taught in math and language arts in all grade levels. Efforts are focused at our high schools on a more rigorous curriculum to challenge and prepare students in addition to SAT and Exit Exam preparations.

The District has set a goal that 90% of all students will be reading at grade level by the end of the third grade. Reading assessments for these grades have been developed and training for all primary teachers has been conducted.

Many accomplishments were made during the 2001-02 school year. Celeste Bowers Harris was a finalist for South Carolina Teacher of the Year. Four district schools were recognized with Palmetto Gold or Silver Awards from the State Department of Education. Ruth Taylor was named South Carolina Science Teacher of the Year. Casey McPherson was named the District and Pee Dee Reading Teacher of the Year.

The district's Occupational Prep Program was selected as the best program of its kind in South Carolina.

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit
www.myschools.com or
www.sceoc.org